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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please amend claim 68 as indicated below. These amendments introduce no new matter and support for the amendments is replete throughout the application as originally filed. These amendments are made without prejudice and are not to be construed as abandonment of the previously claimed subject matter, or agreement with any objection or rejection of record.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-67 (canceled)

Claim 68 (currently amended): A liquid droplet deposition system, comprising:  
a holding mechanism;  
a plurality of capillaries, held by the holding mechanism;  
a sample plate holder positioned beneath the plurality of capillaries; and  
a power supply that includes a voltage source and is configured to generate an electric field between each capillary and a sample plate by applying a charge to the sample plate when said sample plate is placed on the sample plate holder, wherein when a droplet of liquid forms at an end of the capillary, the droplet is charged or grounded and is pulled to the sample plate along the electric field.

Claim 69 (previously presented): The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68, wherein each capillary comprises:

a holding column for containing a liquid from which the liquid droplet is formed; and

a capillary, connected at a first end to the holding column, and including an open tip at a second end for providing the droplets.

Claim 70 (previously presented) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68, wherein the sample plate holder is movable.

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Claim 71 (previously presented) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68, further comprising a motion table upon which is situated one or more sample plate holders.

Claim 72 (previously presented) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68, further comprising means for moving a sample plate that is positioned on the sample plate holder to a target position.

Claim 73 (canceled)

Claim 74 (currently amended) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68 73, wherein the system comprises an electrode plate through which the charge is applied indirectly to the sample plate.

Claim 75 (currently amended) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68 73, wherein the system comprises an electrical connection which grounds a liquid droplet at the tip of the capillary.

Claim 76 (previously presented) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68, wherein the system comprises electrical connections between a power supply and each of a plurality of capillaries, thereby allowing the independent application of a charge to each of a plurality of liquid droplets.

Claim 77 (previously presented) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68, wherein the system comprises electrical connections between a power supply and each region of an array of sample deposition sites, thereby allowing the independent application of a charge to different parts of a sample plate that is positioned on the sample plate holder.

Claim 78 (previously presented) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68, wherein the power supply further includes a ground connection for grounding the liquid droplet.

Claim 79 (previously presented) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68, wherein the power supply includes a voltage source for applying a charge to the liquid droplet.

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Claim 80 (previously presented) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68,  
further comprising a controller.

Claim 81 (previously presented) The liquid droplet deposition system of claim 68,  
wherein the capillary is connected to a liquid chromatography column.